



## Complete Summary

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### TITLE

Oncology: percentage of patients, regardless of age, with a diagnosis of breast, colon, or rectal cancer who are seen in the ambulatory setting who have a baseline AJCC cancer stage or documentation that the cancer is metastatic in the medical record at least once during the 12 month reporting period.

### SOURCE(S)

American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology, American Society of Clinical Oncology, Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement®. Oncology physician performance measurement set. Chicago (IL): American Medical Association (AMA); 2008 Jun. 48 p. [16 references]

## Measure Domain

### PRIMARY MEASURE DOMAIN

Process

The validity of measures depends on how they are built. By examining the key building blocks of a measure, you can assess its validity for your purpose. For more information, visit the [Measure Validity](#) page.

### SECONDARY MEASURE DOMAIN

Does not apply to this measure

## Brief Abstract

### DESCRIPTION

This measure is used to assess percentage of patients, regardless of age, with a diagnosis of breast, colon, or rectal cancer who are seen in the ambulatory setting who have a baseline American Joint Committee on Cancer (AJCC) cancer stage or documentation that the cancer is metastatic in the medical record at least once during the 12 month reporting period.

### RATIONALE

Cancer stage is a critical component in determining treatment options for patients with cancer. Though critically important, cancer stage is not always documented in the medical record.\*

\*The following clinical recommendation statements are quoted verbatim from the referenced clinical guidelines and represent the evidence base for the measure:

A simple classification scheme, which can be incorporated into a form for staging and can be universally applied, is the goal of the TNM system as proposed by the American Joint Committee on Cancer (AJCC). Thus, examination during the surgical procedure and histologic examination of the surgically removed tissues may identify significant additional indicators of the prognosis of the patient (T, N, and M) as different from what could be discerned clinically before therapy. Because this is that pathologic (pTNM) classification and stage grouping (based on examination of a surgically resected specimen with sufficient tissue to evaluate the highest T, N, or M classification), it is recorded in addition to the clinical classification. It does not replace the clinical classification. Both should be maintained in the patient's permanent medical record... It is intended to provide a means by which this information can readily be communicated to others, to assist in therapeutic decisions, and to help estimate prognosis. (Joint Committee on Cancer 2002)

A central component of the treatment of breast cancer is full knowledge of extent of disease and biological features. The need for and selection of various local or systemic therapies are based on a number of prognostic and predictive factors. These factors include tumor histology, clinical and pathologic characteristics of the primary tumor, axillary node status, tumor hormone receptor content, tumor HER2 status, presence or absence of detectable metastatic disease, patient comorbid conditions, patient age, and menopausal status. (National Comprehensive Cancer Network [NCCN] 2007)

## **PRIMARY CLINICAL COMPONENT**

Breast cancer; colon cancer; rectal cancer; American Joint Committee on Cancer (AJCC) cancer stage (Tumor, Lymph Node, Metastasis [TNM] system)

## **DENOMINATOR DESCRIPTION**

All patients, regardless of age, with a diagnosis of breast, colon, or rectal cancer who are seen in the ambulatory setting

## **NUMERATOR DESCRIPTION**

Patients who have a baseline American Joint Committee on Cancer (AJCC) cancer stage\* or documentation that the cancer is metastatic in the medical record at least once during the 12 month reporting period

\*Cancer stage refers to stage at diagnosis.

## **Evidence Supporting the Measure**

### **EVIDENCE SUPPORTING THE CRITERION OF QUALITY**

- A clinical practice guideline or other peer-reviewed synthesis of the clinical evidence

## **Evidence Supporting Need for the Measure**

### **NEED FOR THE MEASURE**

Unspecified

## State of Use of the Measure

### **STATE OF USE**

Current routine use

### **CURRENT USE**

Internal quality improvement

## Application of Measure in its Current Use

### **CARE SETTING**

Ambulatory Care

### **PROFESSIONALS RESPONSIBLE FOR HEALTH CARE**

Physicians

### **LOWEST LEVEL OF HEALTH CARE DELIVERY ADDRESSED**

Individual Clinicians

### **TARGET POPULATION AGE**

All patients, regardless of age

### **TARGET POPULATION GENDER**

Either male or female

### **STRATIFICATION BY VULNERABLE POPULATIONS**

Unspecified

## Characteristics of the Primary Clinical Component

### **INCIDENCE/PREVALENCE**

Unspecified

### **ASSOCIATION WITH VULNERABLE POPULATIONS**

Unspecified

### **BURDEN OF ILLNESS**

Unspecified

**UTILIZATION**

Unspecified

**COSTS**

Unspecified

**Institute of Medicine National Healthcare Quality Report Categories**

**IOM CARE NEED**

Getting Better  
Living with Illness

**IOM DOMAIN**

Effectiveness

**Data Collection for the Measure**

**CASE FINDING**

Users of care only

**DESCRIPTION OF CASE FINDING**

All patients, regardless of age, with a diagnosis of breast, colon, or rectal cancer who are seen in the ambulatory setting

**DENOMINATOR SAMPLING FRAME**

Patients associated with provider

**DENOMINATOR INCLUSIONS/EXCLUSIONS**

**Inclusions**

All patients, regardless of age, with a diagnosis of breast, colon, or rectal cancer who are seen in the ambulatory setting

**Exclusions**

None

**RELATIONSHIP OF DENOMINATOR TO NUMERATOR**

All cases in the denominator are equally eligible to appear in the numerator

## **DENOMINATOR (INDEX) EVENT**

Clinical Condition  
Encounter

## **DENOMINATOR TIME WINDOW**

Time window is a single point in time

## **NUMERATOR INCLUSIONS/EXCLUSIONS**

### **Inclusions**

Patients who have a baseline American Joint Committee on Cancer (AJCC) cancer stage\* or documentation that the cancer is metastatic in the medical record at least once during the 12 month reporting period

\*Cancer stage refers to stage at diagnosis.

### **Exclusions**

None

## **MEASURE RESULTS UNDER CONTROL OF HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS, ORGANIZATIONS AND/OR POLICYMAKERS**

The measure results are somewhat or substantially under the control of the health care professionals, organizations and/or policymakers to whom the measure applies.

## **NUMERATOR TIME WINDOW**

Fixed time period

## **DATA SOURCE**

Administrative data  
Medical record

## **LEVEL OF DETERMINATION OF QUALITY**

Individual Case

## **PRE-EXISTING INSTRUMENT USED**

Unspecified

## **Computation of the Measure**

## **SCORING**

Rate

**INTERPRETATION OF SCORE**

Better quality is associated with a higher score

**ALLOWANCE FOR PATIENT FACTORS**

Unspecified

**STANDARD OF COMPARISON**

Internal time comparison

**Evaluation of Measure Properties****EXTENT OF MEASURE TESTING**

Unspecified

**Identifying Information****ORIGINAL TITLE**

Measure #1: cancer stage documented.

**MEASURE COLLECTION**

[The Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement® Measurement Sets](#)

**MEASURE SET NAME**

[Oncology Physician Performance Measurement Set](#)

**SUBMITTER**

American Medical Association on behalf of the American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology, the American Society of Clinical Oncology, and the Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement®

**DEVELOPER**

American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology  
American Society of Clinical Oncology  
Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement®

**FUNDING SOURCE(S)**

Unspecified

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## **FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES/OTHER POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

Conflicts, if any, are disclosed in accordance with the Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement® conflict of interest policy.

## **ENDORSER**

National Quality Forum

## **INCLUDED IN**

Ambulatory Care Quality Alliance

**ADAPTATION**

Measure was not adapted from another source.

**RELEASE DATE**

2007 Oct

**REVISION DATE**

2008 Jun

**MEASURE STATUS**

This is the current release of the measure.

**SOURCE(S)**

American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology, American Society of Clinical Oncology, Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement®. Oncology physician performance measurement set. Chicago (IL): American Medical Association (AMA); 2008 Jun. 48 p. [16 references]

**MEASURE AVAILABILITY**

The individual measure, "Measure #1: Cancer Stage Documented," is published in the "Oncology Physician Performance Measurement Set." This document and technical specifications are available in Portable Document Format (PDF) from the American Medical Association (AMA)-convened Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement® Web site: [www.physicianconsortium.org](http://www.physicianconsortium.org).

For further information, please contact AMA staff by e-mail at [cqi@ama-assn.org](mailto:cqi@ama-assn.org).

**NQMC STATUS**

This NQMC summary was completed by ECRI Institute on September 8, 2008. The information was verified by the measure developer on October 16, 2008.

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